

Developmental Disabilities Council
Reading Cover Page

Date: January 26, 2007

Meeting: Full Council

Reading Number: 07-03

Issue: System Issues Workgroup Decision Package

Included in this reading:

Advocacy Partnership Decision Package

Background/Summary:

The System Issues Workgroup recommends the Council adopt the Advocacy Partnership Decision Package. This Decision Package addresses several Performance Targets in the State Plan on systems advocacy.

Under this Decision Package \$120,000 per year will be made available. The contract will be awarded on a competitive basis using a Request for Proposal.

Action: Discussion and Final Vote

If you have questions, please contact Lori Flood or Donna Patrick.

Decision Package

Project Title: Advocacy Partnership

Brief Description of Project:

The Advocacy Partnership Project will affect public policy and system reform by informing and educating policymakers and the public about the capabilities, preferences, and needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families; training and supporting individuals with developmental disabilities, their parents, guardians, and other advocates on the legislative process and advocating for what is important to them; and strengthening partnerships and coalitions that further the policy agenda of the Council.

State Plan Advocacy Performance Targets

- Performance Target 1.1 - 500 people (250 self-advocates and 250 family members) actively participate in disabilities systems advocacy each year of the State Plan.
- Performance Target 1.2 - 10 self-advocates and family members are trained to testify at legislative hearings each year of the State Plan.
- Performance Target 1.3 - 2,500 people receive timely, relevant information about legislative actions and budgets that impact people with developmental disabilities and their families each year of the State Plan.
- Performance Target 2.1 - All legislators and their staff are informed and educated about issues important to people with developmental disabilities and their families each year in the State Plan.
- Performance Target 3.1 - 6 legislative bills are passed to improve services and supports for people with developmental disabilities and their families by the end of the State Plan.

Council Resources available for project(s):

\$120,000 available each year, depending on receipt of federal funds. Contracts will be negotiated on a yearly basis. Contract starts July 1, 2007. 25% hard-cash match from a non-federal source or in-kind match is required.

Values, policy directions & limitations:

- Collaboration with groups and organizations (SAIL, parent coalitions, providers)
- Educate and involve as many people as possible in the advocacy process through a variety of means (advocacy day, e-mail, meetings, trainings/briefings, Legislative Reception)
- Build relationships and partnerships with policymakers, staff and other stakeholders.

Criteria for Responsiveness:

Applications must address the following items in order to be considered having met the Council's Criteria for Responsiveness for the Advocacy Partnership Project Request for Proposals:

- The organization must demonstrate capacity, experience, and success in advocating on behalf of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.
- The organization must value and practice cultural competency as defined in Public Law 106.402.
- The organization must demonstrate the ability to work collaboratively and in partnership with other developmental disability and human service advocacy organizations across the state.
- The organization must demonstrate understanding and practice of self-determination principles.
- The organization must have a least one person with a developmental disability serving on their board of directors.

Staff Directions:

Invite the contractor to suggest new ideas and ways of implementing the project that are consistent with the project goals and performance targets.

Have the contractor explain their processes and outcomes in conducting cultural outreach and developing community capacity.

Advocacy Partnership Project Timeline

November 2006 - Systems Issues Workgroup finalize decision package

January 2007 - Full Council vote on decision package

February 2007 - Solicitation process

April / May 2007 - Proposal scoring process / choose contractor

May / June 2007 - Negotiate new contract

July 1, 2007 - New contract begins